

Message Text

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67

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 AID-05 PC-01 OMB-01 /081 W

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R 111616Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 732

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L OUAGADOUGOU 1412

PARIS FOR MELONE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MOPS, PFOR, PBOR, OTRA, GV, ML, UV

SUBJECT: MALIAN/UPPER VOLTAN BORDER DISPUTE

REF: (A) OUAGA 1358 (B) CONAKRY 839

SUMMARY:

HIGH POWERED GUINEAN PEACE MISSION TO UPPER VOLTA
APPARENTLY FALLS SHORT OF DESIRED OBJECTIVES.

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED:

1. GUINEAN PRIME MINISTER LANSANA BEAVOGUI ARRIVED
IN OUAGADOUGOU ON SUNDAY JUNE 8, AND DEPARTED
ON JUNE 9. HE AND THE MEMBERS OF HS ENTOURAGE
MADE AN ISSUE OF THE FACT THAT THEY WERE ALL
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DRESSED IN WHITE AS A SYMBOL OF THE MESSAGE OF

PEACE AND FRATERNITY CONFERRED ON THEM BY PRESIDENT TOURE. HE WAS ACCOMPANIED BY:

A. MAMADI DEITA, MEMBER POLITICAL BUREAU, MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

B. FILI SISSOKO, FOREIGN MINISTER

C. TOUMANI SANGARE, MINISTER OF YOUTH, CULTURE AND THE ARTS

D. FENENON BEHANZIN, MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND IDEOLOGY

E. IBRAHIMA CAMARA, J.R.D.A. GENERAL SECRETARY

F. MOULOUKOU TOURE, GUINEAN AMBASSADOR TO MOROCCO

2. THE GUINEAN COMMISSION MET WITH PRESIDENT LAMIZANA FOR TWO HOURS ON SUNDAY. THEY REFUSED TO MAKE ANY STATEMENT TO THE PRESS AFTER THE MEETING. PRESIDENT MAIZANA HOSTED A FORMAL DINNER FOR THE PRIME MINISTER ON SUNDAY EVENING AND THERE WAS ANOTHER LENGTHY SESSION ON MONDAY.

3. PRIME MINISTER BEAVOGUI SAID IN HIS DEPARTURE STATEMENT, THAT HE WAS LEAVING WITH THE HOPE THAT THINGS WOULD WORK OUT. HE STRESSED THAT HE HAD IMPRESSED THE VOLTAN AUTHORITIES WITH THE FACT THAT PRESIDENT TOURE WAS WILLING TO ASSUME HIS ROLE OF A RESPONSIBLE AFRICAN CONCERNED ABOUT PEACE AND HARMONY AMONG AFRICAN COUNTRIES. THE PRIME MINISTER CONCLUDED WITH THE HOPE THAT SHORTLY THE MALIAN/UPPER VOLTAN BORDER CONFLICT WOULD BE RESOLVED IN A SATISFACTORY AND BENEFICIAL MANNER FOR BOTH NATIONS. END UNCLASSIFIED

BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL:

4. A VOLTAN OFFICIAL TOLD ME LAST NIGHT THAT THE SESSIONS HAD BEEN VERY HEATED. THE GUINEANS TRIED
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TO PERSUADE PRESIDENT LAMIZANA TO COME TO CONAKRY AND MEET WITH PRESIDENT TRAORE AND PRESIDENT TOURE IN AN ATTEMPT TO RESOLVE THE SITUATION. SUPPOSEDLY, PRESIDENT TRAORE HAD AGREED TO THIS MEETING.

5. THE VOLTANS ON THE OTHER HAND WERE CONVINCED THAT THE PEACE MISSION ORIGINATED AS A RESULT OF A PLEA BY PRESIDENT TRAORE TO SEKOU TOURE TO INTERVENE

AND TO ARRANGE SUCH A MEETING.

6. ACCORDING TO THE SAME VOLTA OFFICIAL, MALI IS CONVINCED THAT THE MEDIATION COMMISSION IN LOME WILL MAKE A DECISION IN UPPER VOLTA'S FAVOR, AND THE MALIANS WOULD LIKE TO UPSTAGE OR SABOTAGE THE COMMISSION PRIOR TO THE RELEASE OF THEIR DECISION. HE CONTINUED THAT THE MALIANS HAVE RECENTLY ATTEMPTED SEVERAL DISRUPTIVE PLOYS, SUCH AS REQUESTING THAT THE COMMISSION BE ENLARGED, BECAUSE FOUR MEMBERS WERE AN INSUFFICIENT NUMBER TO ADEQUATELY CONSIDER THE QUESTION. THE VOLTANS THEREFORE REGARD THE GUINEAN PEACE MISSION AND THE PROPOSED MEETING WITH TRAORE IN GUINEA AS ANOTHER MALIAN SCHEME FOR THE SAME PURPOSE.

7. THE PRIME MINISTER'S DEPARTURE STATMENT CERTAINLY LACKED THE RHETORIC THAT IS USUALLY BASIC TO SUCH STATEMENT. THE ABSENCE OF A DECLARATION OF ANY TANGIBLE ACCOMPLISHMENT AND THE GENERALIZED TONE CERTAINLY ARE NOT INDICATIVE OF A DIPLOMATIC COUP.
DUMAS

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